

## STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

22 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0022

WILLIAM H. BEARDSLEY COMMISSIONER

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

## DEVELOPMENT PERMIT DP 4886 T16 MD, HANCOCK COUNTY

**PURPOSE:** The Maine Land Use Regulation Commission will hold a public hearing on Development Permit DP 4886 for a wind energy development proposed by Blue Sky East, LLC., to be located in T16 MD, Hancock County. The facility would be located within the expedited permitting area for wind energy development in a General Management Subdistrict (M-GN), with areas of Wetland Protection Subdistrict (P-WL) and Shoreland Protection Subdistrict. Blue Sky East, LLC is seeking development permit approval from the Commission for 19 Vestas wind turbines with a potential output of 1.8 megawatts (MW) per turbine, and a combined potential output of 34 MW. The turbines would be located on Bull Hill and Heifer Hill in T16 MD. The project would also include: access to the turbines utilizing new and existing roads; 34.5 kilovolt (kV) underground collector lines connecting the turbines; a new substation; an operations and maintenance building; and up to four permanent meteorological towers. Power from the project would connect directly from the new substation to an existing 115kV transmission line. The purpose of the hearing is to allow the applicant, interested groups, and the general public the opportunity to present testimony and evidence as to whether the proposal meets the statutory criteria for approval under the applicable provisions of Title 12 and Title 35-A, see generally, 12 M.R.S, §685-B(2-C), §685-B(4), and §685-B(4-B); 35-A M.R.S., §3451, §3452, §3454 and §3455; and under the applicable provisions of the Commission's Land Use Districts and Standards.

TIME, PLACE and AGENDA: The hearing will be held on Monday and Tuesday, May 16 and 17, 2011, at The Ellsworth Ramada, 215 High Street, Ellsworth, ME 04605. Other than those portions of the hearing allocated for public testimony (namely 6:00 p.m. on each evening of the hearing), the times set forth below may be adjusted at the discretion of the presiding officer. Because adjustments may be made, any person interested in the site visit is encouraged to contact LURC staff in advance.

**MONDAY, MAY 16, 2011** 

10:00am A Commission site visit to the proposed development area will depart

from the Eastbrook Town Office

6:00pm Public Session

Opening statement by Presiding Officer

LURC Staff statement and administrative history

Applicant's summary of the proposal

Public testimony

Closing statement of the Presiding Officer

**TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2011** 

8:30am to 12:00pm Opening statement by Presiding Officer

LURC Staff statement and administrative history

Parties' Opening Statements

Summary of Applicant's testimony, Cross-examination of its witnesses,

questions by Commission, and redirect

PHONE: (207) 287-2631 FAX: (207) 287-7439 TTY: (888) 577-6690 Summary of Hancock County Commissioners' testimony, crossexamination of its witnesses, questions by Commission, and redirect

12:00pm to 1:00pm Recess for Lunch

1:00pm to 5:00pm Summaries of direct testimony by Intervenors, cross-examination of their

witnesses, questions by the Commission, and redirect

6:00pm Public Session

Opening statement by Presiding Officer Staff statement and administrative history Applicant's summary of the proposal

Public testimony (Additional written testimony from the public may be

submitted until the end of the post-hearing comment period.)

Additional summaries and/or cross-examination by the parties may occur

as time permits during this evening session.

Closing statement of the Presiding Officer [End of Period to receive

Oral Public Testimony]

HOW TO PARTICIPATE: All interested persons are invited to attend and offer testimony that has a bearing on this proposal. The public is not required to submit written testimony before the hearing in order to testify. Members of the public may simply attend the hearing and give oral testimony on the evenings of May 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. With the exception of the start times for public testimony, the scheduled times listed above may be adjusted by the Chair. Additional written testimony may be submitted before the close of the record. Those submitting written testimony at the hearing may be asked to summarize their prepared written statement for the purpose of allowing enough time for everyone to speak. Hard copies of written testimony should be made available to the Commission at the time of the hearing. The hearing record will remain open for a period of 10 days until 5:00 pm Friday, May 27, 2011 (or as determined by the Presiding Officer) for the purpose of accepting public comment, and will remain open until 5:00 PM on Friday, June 3, 2011 for the purpose of receiving rebuttal comments. The record of the hearing will then close. All written comments should be sent to the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission, 22 State House Station, Augusta, Me 04333-0022. Comments may also be submitted by e-mail to Donald.Murphy@maine.gov

**DISABILITIES:** Persons with disabilities planning to attend the hearing are requested to inform the Commission in advance so that arrangements can be made for services they may require.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: A copy of the development permit application may be viewed by appointment at the Commission's main office on 18 Elkins Lane in Augusta (207-287-2631) (TTY 888-577-6690); the Hancock County Commissioners office at 50 State Street, Ellsworth; the Land Use Regulation Commission Regional office at 106 Hogan Road, Suite 7, Bangor or on-line at: <a href="http://www.maine.gov/doc/lurc/projects/Windpower/FirstWind/BlueSkyEast/BlueSkyEast.html">http://www.maine.gov/doc/lurc/projects/Windpower/FirstWind/BlueSkyEast/BlueSkyEast.html</a>
Persons having questions may contact Don Murphy at (207-287-2619) or at Donald.Murphy@maine.gov

**LEGAL AUTHORITY:** The hearing will be held under authority of 12 M.R.S.A., Chapter 206-A, and will be conducted in accordance with the Commission's *Rules for the Conduct of Public Hearings*.